

CAMDEN HARBOR COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES OF

NOVEMBER 3, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Gene McKeever, Ben Ellison, Richard Stetson, Sandy Welte, Ray Williamson, Harbormaster Steve Pixley, and Select Board Member Jim Heard.

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Howland (Wayfarer Marine) & Willard Wight.

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

1. NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Susan Howland presented to the committee a dockage comparison she had done. The committee had some discussion concerning the comparison and asked the Harbormaster to get Belfast and Rockland town and private dockage fees for over 60 Ft. vessels, also for next meeting. The change of rates that are in question by all is the 60 Ft. vessels and over. Wayfarer's footage is based on the beam width. This discussion will continue at the next meeting when more comparisons are available. Willard Wight commented that he felt the committee was moving in the right direction by including input by businesses on the harbor that this would affect.

Chairman McKeever welcomed new Select Board liaison Jim Heard on behalf of the committee.

2. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 3RD MINUTES:

Ray Williamson motioned to accept minutes as written. Sandy Welte seconded motion. Passed 5-0.

3. HARBORMASTER'S REPORT:

Harbormaster Pixley updated the committee on the rearranging of gear at head of harbor so that the Mercantile and Grace Bailey would not bang against each other during the construction pending. Richard Stetson asked where Gartley & Dorsky stands with the permits. Pixley said that he knew all material was submitted by Gartley and would follow up on this.

4. UPDATE ON SHORT TERM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:

The letter to Jay Clements of the Army Corps had an error concerning the pilings. The letter stated “pilings consisting of 4 dolphins” and it should be “4 dolphins consisting of 12 pilings”. There was much discussion of rates for dockage. Willard Wight said that P.G. Willey normally charges \$4.00/ft, however, due to the economy that they went to \$3.00/ft this year. It seems that fees are negotiated among the Town (Oct. 15th), Wayfarer and P.G. Willey after Labor Day to get boats to fill empty spaces. Chairman McKeever’s position is that the committee is not in the business to compete with the taxpayers in the harbor. Ray Williamson questioned the fact that if you raise Town dockage fees then you risk having vessels go to neighboring harbors where the fees are less. He would hate to see vessels no longer come to Camden Harbor due to fees. Susan Howland told the committee that she is willing to meet or discuss this issue with the committee at any time.

Willard Wight feels the Town should add showers to the Public Landing. The committee is all in agreement with this and Harbormaster Pixley has spoken to Wastewater Superintendent Ross Parker about an area to build a shower/wash room and said that it would not be a problem at all. The committee would like to continue this discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m. with the next regular meeting scheduled for December 1, 2011 in the **“Gentlemen’s Club”** in the Opera House.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene Libby
Harbor Clerk